Formal Writing Past Exam Questions:

You are advised to spend 40 minutes completing the writing task in this booklet.

Imagine that you are writing to the editor of your local newspaper. Your letter, which will be published in the newspaper, should **explain young people’s views** on ONE topic chosen from the list below.

You may present more than one viewpoint, or you may focus on one particular point of view. You may argue for or against the topic.

**Explain** your ideas.

Support the ideas with **examples**.

Write AT LEAST 250 words.

**Proof-read** your work.

**TOPICS** (Choose ONE)

**1.** Renewable energy is the way of the future.

**2.** Alcohol and youth are a dangerous mix.

**3.** We should be worried about the World Wide Web.

**4.** Poverty is everyone’s responsibility.

**5.** Celebrities are not heroes.

**6.** The rights of young people are often ignored.

**7.** New Zealand / Aotearoa is a country we should admire.

**8.** Sport brings people together.

**9.** To understand another culture, you must learn the language.

**10.** School uniform is an outdated tradition.

11. Success in sport is all about winning.

**12.** Country living is good for young people.

**13.** Watching television is making New Zealand / Aotearoa an unhealthy nation.

**14.** We should value our senior citizens / kaumātua more highly.

**15.** Every school student should learn a second language.

**16.** School is the best place to make mistakes.

**17.** Young people should do more to help in their local community.

**18.** Saving the world’s environment is a lost cause.

**19.** People under 18 are too irresponsible to be allowed to drive.

**20.** Teenagers need protecting from violent images in television, films and games.